

**School Lunch Advisory Council (SLAC)
Meeting Notes – September 30, 2022**

Attendees:

NYS Office of General Services (OGS) Food Distribution:

Maureen Barbic
Nicholas Barber
Gabrielle Viens

Frank Palmo
Anja Allnach

USDA Northeast Regional Office Food and Nutrition Service:

Unable to attend

SLAC Area Representatives

Area A - Scott Ziobrowski, Food Service Director, Hilton Central Schools
Area C - Tami Augugliaro, Food Service Director, Lancaster Central School
Area D - Bryan McCoy, Food Service Director, Broome Tioga BOCES
Area E - Robert Johnson, Food Service Director, Wells Central School
Area F - Dave Gravlin for Brian Mitchell, Food Service Director, Ogdensburg Public Schools
Area G - Lyn Prestia, Food Service Director, Pine Bush Central School District (Unable to attend)
Area J - Colleen Wise, Food Service Director, East Greenbush Central School District
Area K - Alessandro Palumbo, Food Service Director, Farmingdale Public Schools
Area L - Geoffrey Fasy, School Lunch Director, Canandaigua Public Schools
NYC - Anne O'Donnell, Director of Supply Chain Management, Office of Food & Nutrition Services

NYS Education Department (SED) – Child Nutrition Program Administration

Raemie Swain
Kristin Junco

New York School Nutrition Association (SNA):

Jennifer Martin

NYS Office of General Services (OGS) Food Distribution:

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funding: The USDA announced a Bonus (no charge to entitlement) offering of \$300 million USDA Foods to schools on January 19, 2022, to assist school meal programs with food supply chain issues due to the pandemic. New York State's share was \$16,747,064. Schools ordered \$7,050,683 of Direct Delivered USDA Foods and the remaining \$9,696,381 was allocated to the USDA DoD Fresh Program (DoD). As of September 30, schools utilized all CCC funds. Schools have begun using entitlement for DoD. Direct Delivered USDA Foods will be delivered by your distributors as it is received at their warehouses. To view what your school ordered for all programs (NSLP, CCC), run your Requisition Status Report in WBSCM, but leave the program field blank.
- In November 2022, the USDA will be reconciling School Year 2022-23 Entitlement to reflect actual lunch counts reported for School Year 2021-22. OGS will then update entitlement in WBSCM. Entitlement is calculated by multiplying the effective meal rate times the prior school year's lunches, plus prior year carryover. The effective meal rate includes the published per meal rate plus added funds from a legislative provision that requires that total USDA Foods assistance to equal at least 12% of all cash and USDA Food assistance provided by USDA. The effective meal rate for School Year 2022-23 is \$0.43. Entitlement on the Entitlement Bonus Summary Report in WBSCM includes each SFA's carryover fair share. School entitlements for School Year 2022-23 will be less than School Year 2021-22. This is because New York State had \$39 million of entitlement carried over from School Year 2020-21 into School Year 2021-22. For School Year 2022-2023 there will be about \$16 million carried over from School Year 2021-22. Carryover is not rolled down dollar for dollar to SFA's. It is rolled over on the state level and then is automatically fair shared in WBSCM based on each SFA's percentage of total lunches for the state.
- Prices of USDA Food purchases for School Year 2022-23 are coming in high. There may need to be some adjustments to DOD or Pilot allocations if school entitlements are grossly overspent. OGS will reach out to schools on a case-by-case basis.
- On September 23, OGS Agency Procurement Office (APO) issued an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for Warehousing and Distribution of USDA Foods for schools in Region D, which includes the counties of: Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schuylers, Tioga, and Tompkins. Region D is currently being served under a one-year contract by Willow Run Foods because, the prior vendor, Big Apple Deli canceled their 5-year contract after one year

of service. The new contract will run for five years beginning July 1, 2023. The bid opening is at 2 pm on November 4, 2022.

- Food Distribution continues to update its' website. The Area K/W section has been moved to the NSLP section and the DoD and Pilot sections have been moved under the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable tile.
- Food Distribution wants feedback on how we are doing. There is now a link to provide feedback located at the bottom of each OGS FD email.

2022-23 School Year

Direct Delivery (Brown Box)

- There have been several delays and cancelations due to labor shortages, vendor constraints, poor harvest, and other supply chain issues. Canned Mixed Fruit, Canned Peaches, Canned Pears, Orange Juice Cups, Tuna, and Turkey Roasts orders have been affected. Please run your Requisition Status Report to determine how your school's orders have been affected.

Below are details for the recent delays and shortfalls:

- 110651 Orange Juice Single Frz Cup - 96/4 Shortfall: Due to a lack of raw materials, USDA could not procure enough product for the 11/15/22 delivery period. 13-14 truckloads
 - 100125 Turkey Roasts Frzn Ctn - 32-48 Lb: Delayed from the 10/15/22 delivery period to the 01/15/23 and 01/31/23.
 - 100195 Tuna Chunk Light Can - 6/66.5 OZ: Due to continued island closures in the American Samoa that prevented USDA inspections to take place: 11 truckloads canceled.
 - Canned Fruit Shortfall: Due to a vendor no longer participating and volume constraints of an awarded vendor, the USDA is unable to procure enough canned fruits to accommodate the orders requested. 34 truckloads affected
 - 100212 Mixed Fruit Ex Lt Can - 6/10
 - 100220 Peaches Cling Diced Ex Lt Can - 6/10
 - 100225 Pears Diced Ex Lt Can - 6/10
 - 100101 Chicken Diced Ctn-40 Lb.: Delayed due to vendor constraints from the 11/15/22 delivery period to 11/30/22. One (1) truckload affected
- The USDA published a USDA Foods Database that leverages the GS1 Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN) to fulfill a requirement to make nutrition, allergen, and ingredient information available for USDA Foods for NSLP participants (brown box items). The requirement went into effect January 1, 2022, so all approved USDA vendors must enter their information into this database. The database will be updated monthly. This database will also be replacing the USDA Product Information Sheets (Fact Sheets).
 - Commodity Complaints: Schools should fill out the complaint form located on OGS's website. (Link: <https://ogs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2018/08/usdacommoditycomplaintform.pdf>). Be sure to include pictures, a detailed description of issue and the sales order number. OGS will submit the complaint to USDA

Processing

- Please monitor your Requisition Status Report in WBSCM for direct diversion order status for School Year 2022-23 and verify account balances in ProcessorLink and K12. Email or call OGS Food Distribution for assistance with Direct Diversion questions, including additions or reductions to orders.
- K12 trainings have been scheduled for October 5, 2022, at 10:00 am and October 6, 2022, at 1:00 pm.
- ProcessorLink trainings have been scheduled for October 4, 2022, at 1:00 pm and October 6, 2022, at 10:30 am.
- Voluntary pounds return survey will happen again in December 2022. Entitlement will be returned to those who voluntarily return their pounds.

USDA DoD Fresh Program (DoD)

- School Year 2022-23 DoD allocations have been uploaded into FFAVORS. If you wish to allocate more entitlement to DoD FFAVORS, please fill out the [allocation survey](#).
- Schools should verify their contact information is up to date in FFAVORS as that where the vendor/delivery driver is going to call and email.
- The vendor designates your delivery day and while your delivery day may not be the most convenient, not everyone can have the day they want. However, OGS suggests providing your school calendar to your vendor to build a plan in concern to known holidays, breaks, etc. that fall on your scheduled delivery day.

- For the Eastern Contract, Gargiulo uses two subcontractors: Dagele Brothers for the Hudson Valley area and Glazier Packing for the Malone area. Glazier has shifted their delivery schedule to ensure produce does not sit. Brown box delivery dates may be adjusted so that DoD deliveries can be made in the beginning of the week.
- Since produce is perishable, it must be inspected within 24 hours. Any defects must be reported to the vendor within the contracted 24-hour time frame. If schools cannot inspect the produce when it is delivered, make sure to set aside time to inspect it as soon as possible. Drivers are supposed to wait for a school to inspect their product before signing their delivery slip.
- DoD produce is listed as Grade 1 quality, but based on [USDA Grade Standards](#) and confirming with USDA, schools must give a 10% allowance for defects for Grade 1 quality. Also, 51% of the box must be subpar quality before it is considered unacceptable.
- Gargiulo is unable to offer NYS Apples through DoD because NYS farmers do produce enough apples to fill all orders.
- There is no cap to the DoD Program. The vendors are procured by the US Department of Defense (DoD) Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

USDA Pilot Project for Unprocessed Fruits and Vegetables (Pilot)

- Schools in the Pilot program must procure their vendor. Procurement guidance is on Food Distribution's website. The vendor and products must be on the approved eligible Pilot list, and New York State is capped at \$3.5 million for the Pilot program. There is \$500,000 of entitlement unallocated for the Pilot program. Please send an email to OGS Donated Foods if your school has remaining entitlement to allocate to the Pilot.

NYS Education Department (SED) – Child Nutrition Program Administration

1. Can you expand on the statement below as far as our responsibility and expectations? Is there going to be a request for another list of students eligible?

Pandemic EBT Updates

- o The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) has completed the issuance of P-EBT for School Year 2020-21 and Summer 2021.
- o If questions arise, schools can continue to refer families to the P-EBT Food Benefits Helpline: **1-833-452-0096** or to the [P-EBT Information Form](#) to submit a question in writing.
- o Helpline agents have been instructed to only direct parents to contact schools to apply for free and reduced-price school meals.
- o USDA has approved New York State's Summer 2022 P-EBT plan. Under this approved plan, eligible children enrolled in a National School Lunch Program participating school in June 2022 will receive a standard benefit of \$391.
- o USDA has yet to approve New York State's plan for distribution of P-EBT benefits for the 2021-22 School Year. Once the plan is approved and information is available about 2021-22 School Year P-EBT benefits, it will be posted at otda.ny.gov/SNAP-COVID-19/.
- o School year P-EBT benefits will continue for the duration of the federal public health emergency.
- o Additional local P-EBT administrative funding will be distributed to schools this Fall. More information regarding this funding will be forthcoming.

A. OTDA is still working on cleanup of the 2020-21 family inquiries. SED may reach out to your schools for additional information on individual students' eligibility. If and when a School Year 2021-22 plan is approved, data previously submitted to SED through schools normal reporting channels will be used. Only non-public schools will be required to provide rosters. If you are a public school with non-public(s) under you, we will be contracting you.

2. Renzi has won our bid in my Area. I feel like they have probably won a lot because basically they are the only ones bidding. Having said that I have recently compared the State Contract to the bid and the State contract is much cheaper. So, my question is why for one and for two can we just use the State contract pricing then? (we are sending this as it seems to have to do with Procurement)

A. Schools may use the State contract as one of their quotes for an informal bid. However, there is a communication gap about State contracts that should be addressed. Sometimes Food Service Directors are just going with their BOCES bid, but if there are cheaper bids, go with the cheaper bids (schools should go where it's cheaper). If schools only get two quotes, please document. If schools are using an online process to compare prices – document this process! State Education understands that many things are online now and that the procurement requirements aren't conducive to how SFA's are operating (micro, small, formal, etc.), just please keep documentation of your process.

3. NYSED Business portal has new sites/ Out of District – but no students show up when trying to get a report?

A. All students that are associated with a school district are pulled in, including home bound, home instruction, and out of district placement students. Nothing popping up for those just means that the school doesn't have any homebound, home instruction, or out of district placement students, which is pretty common.

4. What can be done for Out of District parents who did not get their PEBT?

A. If the student was reported as enrolled in a school that participated in NSLP in School Year 2021-22 and was eligible for PEBT benefits, they should have received benefits or may receive them during the cleanup process.

5. A few of my issues are direct certification and the matching process. So many students have hyphenated names, different names, address, if they are a III or a junior or names are misspelled etc....and there are always matching errors. It's becoming a more frequent issue.

A. The matching engine can be thought of as a toolbox. Tools in the toolbox are used to help discover matches between direct certification records and student records in NYSSIS (records maintained by LEAs and housed at NYSED). For example, there are tools called 'Soundex', 'edit distance', and 'longest common substring' that can eliminate typos, misspellings, and other differences between records to help identify matches.

6. What does the probability column mean?

A. The matching engine does not say that two records are absolutely a match, or two records are absolutely not a match, it simply calculates the probability of two records being a match. Generally speaking, scores in the 90% range are always identical matches but even scores in the below 50% range will often be matches. Lower probability scores simply mean someone should compare the matches manually before directly certifying. As you inspect matches over time, you'll start to get a feel for probability scores and those scores that require validation.

After downloading, how you then import into your local system will vary. In almost all cases you will want to use either the Local ID or NYSSIS ID in the downloaded table to join with tables in your local system. This circumvents the need to match the students first and last name and date of birth to your local student roster, which is error prone. The State Match system has already matched DC data to student records, you now simply need to import these into your local system using the student's unique ID.

6. NYSED needs to bring back training sessions in person. I am having difficulty meeting the guidelines for nutritional's along with supply chain issues and making modifications. NYSED can't just send out emails on new policies and expect us to keep up on all of them without sufficient training. School cafeterias are already struggling with filling positions for their departments. There should be more of an incentive to work in a school to come on board as an employee.

A. SED does plan on going back to in-person trainings in the spring. The training tab on SED's website has everything covered (webinars, snippets, tutorials, etc.). From now until spring, schools have the option to reach out to a Master Instructor to assist (there is a network for Master Instructors on the training tab or CN training at nysed.gov to request a training session, but to do so, schools will need a location and at least 10 people in order to schedule). You could also reach out to our training team at cntraining@nysed.gov and request a training.

7. It's hard to stay on the guidelines sometimes with availability.

A. There is a waiver to allow SED to not take action if guidelines are not met due to supply chain issues. Schools should document all instances like this to show why they were unable to meet the nutritional requirements.

Third Allocation of Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) Funds: Because supply chain disruptions and other economic uncertainty remain significant, USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is providing a third round of SCA funds to assist school programs in their efforts to provide consistent and nutritious school meals to children. We will be using the same formula and process used to distribute the first round of funds. We have not received the funding from USDA for round 2 or 3 yet. As soon as we receive it, we will release rounds 2 and 3 together.

SCA funds remain limited to the purchase of unprocessed or minimally processed domestic food product. If you signed the attestation for round 1, you will not have to sign an attestation again. We encourage everyone to take the funding.

Equipment Grant: FY21 Equipment Grant - Awards were posted in July and SFAs have been waiting for their formal award letters. We just received OSC approval of the awards and have processed the awards in the CN office this week. Grants finance office is working on sending out the official approval letters that will be sent to the district superintendent/SEDREF CEO. Awards letters should be received within 2 weeks.

New FY22 Equipment Grant (\$4.7 mill) - expected to be posted in the Spring 2023. Will use SharePoint to collect applications again. We will send out a blast email when it is posted.

Questions? Call & ask for Elizabeth O'Connor/Tara Webster or email foodequip@nysed.gov

New York School Nutrition Association (SNA)

CONFERENCE

- Registration closes October 1st
- Oct 21-22 at Turning Stone Resort in Verona

REGIONAL INDUSTRY SEMINARS

- November 30 - Long Island
- December 14 - Rochester
- December 15 – Saratoga
- Online registration will open up mid-October

LEGISLATIVE ACTION CONFERENCE

- Week of January 23rd
- Virtual
 - Virtual general session and maybe some pre-cons
 - Scheduled visits with elected officials throughout the week
- Legislative Agenda Items
 - Universal Meals – working with a coalition led by Hunger Solutions NY
 - Adding breakfast to the 30% program – working with NYGFFNYK coalition

FRESH BITES

- Winter 2023 submission deadline November 9th

NYSNA Communication Channels

- Email
- Website
- Monthly e-newsletters
- Quarterly digital publication (Fresh Bites)
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn)
- NYSNA News

Be sure your correct email is on file with the HQ office to receive regular communications.

AREA A

1. Please ask if there is any chance we will get the Tuna and Canned Fruit the second half of the year?

A. Due to Covid-19 travel restrictions USDA Inspectors, are unable travel to the American Samoa. Therefore, Tuna has been cancelled for the entire school year. Canned fruit is expected to arrive the second half of the year.

2. Boulevard is telling us we HAVE to notify them, by email, the day of delivery if we reject anything (Bags in a case) that they will be replacing regardless of it being marked on the invoice. Is this really the procedure if it's marked on the invoice with the driver? We can't reach out the next day if that's when we receive the invoices from the schools?

A. Your DoD vendor may not be receiving your signed invoice until it goes through their internal accounting process, which may take a few days. Please make sure to promptly (within 24 hours of delivery) alert your DoD vendor and OGS by email with any issues.

3. Where's the food? Our first commodity order egg patties specially?

A. Commodities are arriving; some have been delayed or cancelled. Please run your Requisition Status Report to see the date USDA Foods are expected to be received at your distributor. Palmer started distributing to schools the second week of September.

4. We would be most interested to learn about options for the pork and beef pounds that were cut by Maid Rite and Tyson.

A. OGS can only order in full truckloads. Therefore, if more than a truckload is ordered then the partial truckload is cut. OGS calculates projected carryover to try and cover any partial truckloads that get cut to ensure schools still receive their original request they first placed in WBSCM. Due to multiple factors this year, carryover was not always available to cover all requests. The USDA monitors state's inventory levels at processors. States cannot have in excess of six months inventory in the state account, so we cannot order more than what schools can reasonably use in a school year. One of Maid Rite's facilities burned down last school year and they are currently unable to accommodate the same capacity as in past years.

Email OGS.sm.Processing@ogs.ny.gov and we will gladly work with you to try to find an alternate solution that works for your school.

AREA C

1. Can USDA expand on the statement below as far as our responsibility and expectations? Is there going to be a request for another list of students eligible?

A. Please see the response to question 1 in the SED section above.

2. I would like to know if the bid spec could be tightened on the diced strawberry cups? I just had one today from Tabatchnick and there was only a very small amount of diced strawberries and the rest was syrup water.

A. Please fill out a complaint form located on OGS's website. (Link: <https://ogs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2018/08/usdacommoditycomplaintform.pdf>). Be sure to include pictures, a detailed description of issue and the sales order number. OGS will submit the complaint to USDA

AREA D

1. Nothing to report

AREA E

1. Renzi has won our bid in my Area. I feel like they have probably won a lot because basically they are the only ones bidding. Having said that I have recently compared the State contract to the bid and the State contract is much cheaper. So, my question is why for one and for two can we just use the State contract pricing then? The problem I have is, it is the exact same item number for both. I just don't understand why they are doing this?

A. Please see response to question 2 in the SED section above.

AREA F

1. I hear grumblings from managers from time to time when requested delivery dates for commodities are changed. I'm guessing this might happen when truckloads need to be condensed. Are there other scenarios where this could happen?

A. Requested delivery dates may be changed for several reasons:

- During spring ordering, OGS may need to consolidate two or more delivery dates to meet one or more of the following requirements:
 - Must be a full truckload,
 - Must be three (3) or fewer stops,
 - Minimum quarter truckload per stop, and
 - All delivery locations must be within a day's travel of each other.
- During USDA's procurement process, the following issues may arise:
 - If there are no bidders, the USDA may try to procure again.
 - If the USDA determines bid prices are not fair or reasonable, they may attempt to procure again or cancel.
 - If vendors are at capacity, or encounter extraordinary circumstances, orders may be delayed or cancelled.
 - If a vendor runs into constraints such as labor or raw materials shortages, orders may be delayed or cancelled.

OGS receives notification regarding delays, cancellations, and shortfalls and reviews the best course of action to minimize the impact and provides notification to recipient agencies.

2. Glazier's Foodservices seems to be doing a decent job at delivering commodities and FFAVORS produce. The reports are sent out weekly. FFAVORS deliveries seem to be going pretty well. Communication with the representative at Glazier is not always quick, but she does get back eventually. I believe she had some email issues this year with messages going to spam.

A. Good to hear.

AREA G

1. NYSED Business portal has new sites /Out of District – but no students show up when trying to get a report?

A. Please see the response to Question 3 in the SED section above.

2. What can be done for Out of District parents who did not get their PEBT?

A. Please see the response to Question 4 in the SED section above.

3. Reporting late deliveries with Sysco. We have capital projects going on and accepting late deliveries during dismissal is just not sage or doable. I have to refuse my delivery today because they are an hour late. Not to mention, I don't have staff to accept it past 2pm either.

A. Please communicate with Sysco. Distributors determine their delivery schedule and routes. Your school will need to work with Sysco to accept deliveries. If you are experiencing any issues with Sysco, such as late deliveries of USDA Foods (Direct Delivery/Brown Box), please notify our office at ogsdonatedfoods@ogs.ny.gov.

4. Can we change our OGS delivery day? Current delivery arrives very late on Friday after the staff's end time, which is 2 pm, a delivery earlier during the week would be best.

A. Distributors determine their delivery schedule and routes. Deliveries should be Monday - Friday between the hours of 7 am – 2 pm, but also understand and have flexibility when it comes to traffic and circumstances outside the distributor's control. Please communicate with your distributor as they may be able to adjust your delivery date or time to accommodate special needs. If you have any issues with your distributor, such as late deliveries of USDA Foods (Direct Delivery/Brown Box), please notify our office at ogsdonatedfoods@ogs.ny.gov.

5. Can we change our DoD delivery days? The current delivery day is a Tuesday; to ease the delivery load, all deliveries are dropped off at one location versus all 16 schools; the deliveries arrive late (after 2pm). A Monday would be great, if possible.

A. You may not change your delivery day, but please make sure to alert your DoD vendor and OGS of any delivery issues.

6. Can bananas be added?

A. Unfortunately, the quantity of domestically produced bananas cannot satisfy the nationwide demand.

7. Will OGS/USDA offer the breaded 8pc Cut Chicken?

A. Breaded 8pc Cut Chicken is not a product that is available to be offered, however there is an 8 pc Oven Roasted chicken product available.

8. A few of my issues are direct certification and the matching process. So many students have hyphenated names, different names, addresses, if they are a III or a junior or names are misspelled etc...and there are always

matching errors. It's becoming a more frequent issue.

A. Please see the response to Question 5 in the SED section above.

9. I am looking for any type of training that OGS can provide. There are currently no training videos from OGS or tutorials. They cannot expect someone to just go on the website and view power points. I need training!! I am having extreme difficulty trying to learn the diverting process. Who to divert with, who to call for the order – Do I call the broker? The distributor? The manufacturer? It's always different. FFS and NOI is driving me crazy, and the way things are billed – I do not understand it. K12 Foodservice draws down the pounds and ProcessorLink draws up on the pounds, I did not know this. There isn't even any customer service for ProcessorLink if I did have a question. Tyson says pork is FFS but beef and chicken are NOI – I have no idea what that even means. It is very very confusing for me, and I wish there was a general training under one umbrella.

A. OGS K12 and Processor Link training sessions scheduled for schools. Procurement training is available on SED's website. There are also training videos on Food Distribution's website <https://ogs.ny.gov/usda-food-distribution/training-resources-0#top>

10. NYSED needs to bring back training sessions in person. I am having difficulty meeting the guidelines for nutritionals along with supply chain issues and making modifications. NYSED can't just send out emails on new policies and expect us to keep up on all of them without sufficient training. School cafeterias are already struggling with filling positions for their departments. There should be more of an incentive to work in a school to come on board as an employee.

A. Please see the response to Question 6 in the SED section above.

11. Question about DoD FFAVORS: my deliveries are on Mondays and many of the holidays during the course of the year fall on Mondays. Is there a way in which I can get another day for Delivery when this happens? I email the sales rep for Gargiulo asking if he can deliver on another day and most of the time he is accommodating, but it would be nice if I had another day available for deliveries when a holiday falls on a Monday.

A. The contract allows for one delivery day per week.

AREA J

1. DoD was awful, the following was unsuitable for consumption (delivered Frida) carrot sticks, slaw mix, romaine lettuce, strawberries, blueberries, and shredded lettuce...what a waste!

A. Please make sure to email your DoD vendor and OGS of any issues within 24 hours.

2. DoD/FFAVORS continues to be an ongoing struggle. We give them a lot of money because the products can be wonderful and a great use of our entitlement. But their delivery schedule is erratic. Many of us planned on deliveries for opening week. Several districts called/emailed Gargiulo to confirm. Yet opening day they didn't come, and we were left scrambling. Some of us got orders for one school, but not another (entered at the same time). When pressed, Gargiulo passes the blame to their delivery company and NEVER apologizes or accepts fault for poor communication. It's gotten to the point where I'm not ordering anything I need from DoD because they're just not reliable. I'm only using them for "extras" like fruits and veggies that will be a bonus if they show, but if not, I can live without. I NEVER order anything from them that's actually on my menu.

A. Please make sure to alert your DoD vendor and OGS of any issues within 24 hours.

3. Terrible communication from Gargiulo Produce.

A. Please make sure to email your DoD vendor and OGS of any issues within 24 hours.

4. Hard to stay on the guidelines sometimes with availability.

A. Please see the response to Question 7 in the SED section above.

5. Also have had things get cancelled, which puts more entitlement money balance. But how do we order with that money?

A. Schools can use available entitlement from cancellations towards DoD or Pilot. If Direct Delivery items become available in your area, OGS will notify you via email.

AREA K/W

1. So far so good.

A. Wonderful news!

2. The quality and size of the fruit that we receive from Gargiulo produce often does not meet the standard that we receive from our local produce providers. In particular the peaches were huge and not very good, also the nectarines arrived very bruised. Why does the lead time for placing an order with Gargiulo have to be 7 days prior to delivery?

A. Please make sure to email your DoD vendor and OGS of any issues within 24 hours. Also, check your invoice to make sure products match the delivery slip and verify that you're not being charged for a different product.

3. We have had a success first two weeks of school so far on direct diversion.

A. Very good to hear!

4. DoD has great product and pricing; way to use entitlement funds.

A. Always happy to hear!

5. I have been happy with Schrier reporting and deliveries so far. How do we determine the value of commodities for the month? And the value of direct diversion? We need this info monthly.

A. To determine the value of commodities received, please run the Value of Commodities Received – RA Report (pdf) in WBSCM. This report will provide the value of your Direct Delivery commodities that were delivered to your distributor. To determine the value per case, divide the Net Value of the product by the Requested Qty of the product. Use K12 and ProcessorLink to determine bulk pound usage. The Value of Commodities Received Report will only show the bulk pounds your school ordered, so make sure to go into K12 and ProcessorLink to pull the end products (and their value) that you received for the month.

In Area K & W, School Year 2021-22 carryover commodities will not be listed on these reports because they were allocated prior to WBSCM in your area. OGS will be posting these in the RA Login Portal soon. For the time being, the per case value of these commodities are listed below:

School Year 2021-22 Carryover Commodity Prices (Area K/W)

| Material | Material Desc. | Price/Case |
|----------|---|------------|
| 110361 | APPLESAUCE CUP-96/4.5 | \$42.64 |
| 110541 | APPLESAUCE UNSWEETENED CAN-6/10 | \$37.89 |
| 100373 | BEANS GREAT NORTHERN CAN-6/10 | \$23.92 |
| 100212 | MIXED FRUIT EX LT CAN-6/10 | \$33.49 |
| 100241 | PEACH FREESTONE DICED FRZ CUP-96/4.4 OZ | \$42.45 |
| 100336 | SPAGHETTI SAUCE MEATLESS CAN-6/10 | \$23.93 |

AREA L

1. Nothing to report

NYC Board of Education

1. Nothing to report

School Year 2022-23 SLAC meeting dates:

- Friday, January 6, 2023 (Virtual)
- Friday, May 12, 2023 (in Person)